

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US03/27739

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : G06F 15/16

US CL : 709/201, 217

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 340/870.02; 709/201, 217, 232, 236; 705/412

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

EAST Search Terms: Meter Reading, Data Collection, Utility, Packet Processing

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 6,657,552 B2 (Belski et al.) 02 December 2003 (02.12.2003) See Figures 1-6, Column 1, Line 65 through Column 3, Line 44 and Column 4, Line 45 through Column 10, Line 65.	1-35
Y,E	US 20040030745 A1 (Boucher et al.) 12 February 2004 (12.02.2004) See All Claims (Pages 52-55).	1-35
Y	US 6014089 A (Tracy et al.) 11 January 2000 (11.01.2000) SEE ENTIRE DOCUMENT.	1, 4, 21, 29, 31 and 35
Y,E	US 20040019518 A1 (Abraham et al) 29 January 2004 (29.01.2004) See Page 5, Section [0057]	1, 4, 21, 29, 31 and 35
A	WO 200135366 A (BERGUM et al) 17 May 2001 (17.05.2001) SEE ENTIRE DOCUMENT.	1-35
A	EP 1265450 A (LANG) 12 April 2002 (12.04.2002) SEE ENTIRE DOCUMENT	1-35



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



See patent family annex.

Special categories of cited documents:	
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"E" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date	"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search

05 May 2004 (05.05.2004)

Date of mailing of the international search report

03 JUN 2004

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